Details of casualities suffered due to Pakistani firings in Siachen Glacier, LOC and IB in J&K during the last six months are given at statement attached.

Statement

Casualities suffered due to Pakistani Firing in Siachen Glacier, LOC & IB in J&K during May to October 1997

Sector	*Army*		*BSF*		*Civilians*	
	k	*w*	*k*	*w*	*k*	*w*
Siachen Glacier	*2*	*21*	—	—	—	—
LOC	*11*	*44*	—	*3*	*24*	*35*
IB	—	*11*	—	*4*	*8*	*15*
Total	*13*	*76*	—	*7*	*32*	*50*

k: Killed
w: Wounded
LOC: Line of Control
IB: International Border

Ban on Import of Indian Carpets by U.S.A.

*3. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that USA is enacting a legislation to ban import of Indian Carpets;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken or are avert the ban?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (b) According to information available, an amendment has recently been enacted under U.S. Government's Treasury, Postal Services and General Appropriation Act, 1998 which reads as follows:

"Section 633. None of the funds made available in this Act for the United States Custom Service may be used to allow the importation into the United States of any goods, ware, article or mechandise mined, produced or manufactured by forced or indentured child labour, as determined prusuant to section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307)."

The following bills have also been introduced recently in the U.S. Congress.

(i) Child Labour Free Consumer Information Act of 1997.

(ii) Bonded Child Labour Elimination Act.

(iii) Child Labour Deterrence Act of 1997.

(iv) International Child Labour Elimination Act of 1997 (Bill No. HR-2677).

(v) International Child Labour Elimination Act of 1997 (Bill No. HR-2678).

According to information available, the above Bills have not yet been approved by the US Congress.

The apparent reasons for enacting the above said legislations are their objective to inform and empower consumers in U.S. regarding goods made with abusive and exploitative child labour and to prohibit the import of articles produced or manufactured with bonded or indentured child labour.

(c) The steps being taken by the Government to counter the adverse impact of the legislation and its implication in term of Indian law; intensifying efforts for mobilising support against trade re-

striction measures for reasons relating to labour standards in ILO; considering raising the issue formally and informally at W.T.O.; taking up the issue at diplomatic level with U.S. Government; interaction with leading U.S. importers of Indian carpets; sending of delegation to U.S. by Carpet Export Promotion Council; publicity campaign; adoption of voluntary code of conduct by the carpet trade and promotion of "Kaleen". label.

Drought Prone Area Programme in Maharasthra

*4. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing Drought Prone Area Programme in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) how many districts of the State are being covered under the programme with details thereof;

(d) whether Government have reviewed the programme to ensure its satisfactory implementation;

(e) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(f) the steps Government propose to take to make the programme a success in the State?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Drought Prone Areas Programme is under implementation in 148 blocks of 22 districts. Details annexed as Statement (*See* below).

(d) and (e) The programme is being monitored and reviewed continuously on monthly and quarterly basis by the Ministry. The Government of Maharashtra have reported that the Programme is being reviewed by the State Watershed Progamme Implementation & Review Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister for Agriculture and Soil Conservation. In addition, the Programme is reviewed by the Divisional Committees.

Against a target of 873 Watershed projects, about 820 projects have been taken up so far. The impact of the projects will be known after they are completed.

(f) To make the Programme a success the State Government have informed that they are striving at Integrated Watershed Management approach in the State by using modern technology and ensuring people's participation through strengthening the village level bodies.

Statement

Name of districts and number of blocks included under Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) in Maharashtra

S.No.	Name of the District	No. of Blocks
1.	Ahmednagar	10
2.	Aurangabad	6
3.	Akola	13
4.	Amravati	9
5.	Buldana	9
6.	Beed	6
7.	Chandrapur	3
8.	Dhule	7
9.	Gadchiroli	3
10.	Jalgaon	7
11.	Jalna	2
12.	Latur	4
13.	Nagpur	1
14.	Nanded	4
15.	Nasik	13
16.	Osmanabad	3
17.	Pune	12
18.	Prabhani	4
19.	Sangli	6
20.	Satara	4
21.	Sholapur	10
22.	Yeotmal	12
	TOTAL	148